submitted with the remarks of the Diwan Peishkar upon that report and that is under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): Have the Government received any petition from the public of the northern taluks to extend the activities of the Board to the northern taluks of the State?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): There were representations made in the Council itself. I do not think the Government have received any specific representation.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): Have the Government any idea to extend these activities to the northern taluks?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): That will depend upon the decision of the Government upon that report.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): When will that decision be arrived at?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): As early as possible.

EVICTION AND MAINTENANCE SUITS.

283. Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar (*Nemmara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the number of eviction cases as between landlord and tenants in all the civil courts of the State;

(*b*) the number of maintenance cases in the civil courts of the State?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) The information asked for cannot be supplied since the period to which it relates is not specified in the question.

MATTANCHERI-ERNAKULAM FERRY SERVICE—ASSUMPTION OF MANAGEMENT BY GOVERNMENT.

284. Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether there is a proposal for the Government to take up the Mattancheri-Ernakulam Ferry service;

(*b*) what is the amount paid by the present ferry transport company to the Government annually?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) No

(*b*) Rs. 20,000 per annum. The contractors also pay a sum of Rs. 15 to the Government per mensem for the use of the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Jail Jetty at Ernakulam and a sum of Rs. 30 per mensem for the use of the extra jetty put up at Mattancheri.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): When was this Rs. 20,000 fixed?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): Some years back.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): In view of the altered circumstances can this amount be enhanced?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): The Government do not think so.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Has not the traffic increased?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): The previous agreement, I think, is about to expire and the same contractor has been allowed to continue his business for another three years. In fact it was feared at one time whether the construction of the bridge will not reduce the traffic.

Mr. V. J. Mathai (*Planters*): Have the Government any proposal to improve the condition of the ferry?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Ezhuvas-Trichur*): Have they already condemned the present boats?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): Not that the boats have been condemned. In the new agreement we have made provision for new boats to be built and also for improving the existing ones.

Mr. V. J. Mathai (*Planters*): May I know when it will come into operation?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): In April this year.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): Does the Government feel any difficulty in auctioning it from year to year?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): I do not think it will be possible. The contractor will have to invest a lot of money, and to change it from year to year will be a great hardship.

Mr. V. J. Mathai (*Planters*): Are the Government aware that the boats sometimes ground themselves in the backwater?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): Sometimes, yes.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): May I know whether the Government has fixed any minimum rate of charge in the contract ?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

Mr. V. J. Mathai (*Planters*): In view of the frequent grounding of boats has the Government any proposal in view?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): The back-water portion is being dredged occasionally.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): Will the Government be pleased to construct a better jetty in Mattancheri?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): That is under construction.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): Will you be pleased to increase the number of timings ?

Mr. V. J. Mathai (*Planters*): Are we to take it that the Government have a comprehensive scheme to improve the whole ferry service?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

PADANNA CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES—BOATS— SUPPLY OF.

285. Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon (*Kattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether there were not repeated requests from the "Karuvannur Padanna Co-operative Society", for helping them with one or two boats ;

(*b*) were there not instances of our kind Government supplying boats to helpless Padanna Co-operative Societies ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): (*a*) There was a request recently from the Karuvannur Padanna Co-operative Society to help them with a boat.

(*b*) Yes.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon (*Kattur*): Will the Government at least now consider the question ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): Yes. The application was made to the Protector of Depressed Classes and his report shows that he had no finance. Such requests are considered.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon (*Kattur*): Will the Government make proper representations to the Protector of Depressed Classes ?

Mr K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*): Yes.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly